Modernisation of communication system

42. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether MTNL has introduced electronic exchanges and also modernised communication system to a great extent during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof, Statewise, in general and for Maharashtra in particular; and

(c) in what manner they compare with financial outlay programme content, Statewise, for implementation during the Eighth Five Year Plan in general and Maharashtra in particular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A large number of electronic exchanges have been introduced during 7th Five Year Plan to modernise the telecommunication service in the country including MTNL covering Bombay in Maharashtra State and Delhi. Out of 1284 kilo electronic lines added in the country during 7th Five Year Plan, 260.684 kilolines were added in Bombay 55.984 Kilo lines were added in Maharashtra excluding Bombay. This works out to be 24.62 of the total lines. 288 kilolines were added in Delhi (MTNL) which is approximately 22.4 per cent of the total lines. Approximately 779 kilolines were added in the rest of the country which works out to be 53 per cent of the total lines. In addition about 86.5 kilo lines of TAX were also commissioned out of which 16 kilolines at Bombay 19 kilolines at Delhi and 6 kilolines in Maharashtra excluding Bombay for improving the STD and other Trunk services.

High Grade media like Optical Fibre System, Digital Microwave Computersed Directory Enquiry Services, Computerised Service Centres and Value Added Phones plus service for electronic exchange subscribers were also introduced in the country specially in Bombay and Delhi.

(c) The total outlay proposed for the entire country in the 8th Five Year Plan is Rs. 40555.05 crores out of which Bombay accounts for Rs. 3291.45 crores. Maharashtra excluding Bombay accounts for Rs. 3560.57 crores while for Delhi it is Rs. 3304.66 crores. This works out to be 16.90 per cent for Maharashtra including Bombay, 8.15 per cent for Delhi and 74.95 per cent for the rest of the country.

Steps to rectify the defective telephones in Hissar

43. SHRI RAMJI LAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have provided modern electronic exchange in Hissar, the largest district of Haryana;

(b) if so, what are the reasons that more than 20 per cent telephones remain out of order;

(c) whether in other exchanges also such a position is prevailing if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) what are the reasons for which the telephones of MPs from Hissar remain out of order; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take to rectify this situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir. However, there is no electronic exchange in Hissar town at present.

(b) and (c) It is not correct that 20 per cent of telephones remain out of order or that this position is prevailing in exchanges.

(d) Telephones of M.P.s are being tested regularly and are working satisfactorily.

(e) To further improve the performance of network at Hissar, 1400 lines electronic exchange is being installed.